WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus, comprising:

spool means for temporarily storing data to be printed, generated by an application program, in an intermediate-code format;

setting-information obtaining means for obtaining printing-setting information from the data temporarily stored in said spool means in the intermediate-code format;

display control means for controlling such that a user interface for editing the printing-setting information of the data temporarily stored in the intermediate-code format is displayed; and

setting edit means for relating printing settings edited by the user interface to the data stored in the intermediate-code format and for temporarily storing them,

wherein said display control means controls such that a change of printing settings which can be edited by the user interface is restricted and the printing settings are displayed.

2. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising job combining means for

combining a plurality of printing jobs temporarily stored in said spool means for the data to be printed, converted to the intermediate-code format, into one job,

wherein the user interface can edit printing settings for the combined job.

3.   An information processing apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said display control means controls such that a second user interface for editing layout settings, which are printing settings for which editing is restricted, for each combined job is displayed.

4.   An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the printing settings for which editing is restricted by said display control means includes printing settings related to printing quality.

5.   An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising restriction-information obtaining means for obtaining the restriction information of printing settings,

wherein said display control means restricts a changed of printing settings which can be edited by the user interface, according to the restriction information.

6. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising printing-data generation means for generating printing data to be transmitted to the printing apparatus, according to the data temporarily stored in said spool means in the intermediate-code format.

7. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 6, further comprising:

description-instruction generation means for converting the data temporarily stored in said spool means in the intermediate-code format into description instructions which the description means of the operating system can interpret and for outputting the instructions; and

printing-instruction allocation means for passing a printing instruction received from the application program through the description means of the operating system, to said spool means, and for passing a printing instruction received from said description-instruction generation means through the description means of the operating system, to said printing-data generation means.

8. An information processing apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein the description instructions are graphic-driver-interface (GDI) functions, the printing instructions are device-driver-interface (DDI) functions, and the

printing data is written in a printer language.

9. An information processing method for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus, comprising:

an intermediate-data conversion step of converting data to be printed, generated by an application program into data having an intermediate-code format to temporarily store it;

a setting-information obtaining step of obtaining printing-setting information from the data temporarily stored in the intermediate-code format;

a display control step of controlling such that a user interface for editing the printing-setting information of the data temporarily stored in the intermediate-code format is displayed; and

a setting edit step of relating printing settings edited by the user interface to the data stored in the intermediate-code format and of temporarily storing them,

wherein said display control step controls such that a change of printing settings which can be edited by the user interface is restricted and the printing settings are displayed.

10. An information processing method according to Claim 9, further comprising a job combining step of

combining a plurality of temporarily-stored printing jobs

for to the data to be printed, converted to the

intermediate-code format, into one job,

wherein the user interface can edit printing settings

for the combined job.

11.   An information processing method according to

Claim 10, wherein said display control step controls such

that a second user interface for editing layout settings,

which are printing settings for which editing is restricted,

for each combined job is displayed.

12.   An information processing method according to

Claim 9, wherein the printing settings for which editing is

restricted in said display control step includes printing

settings related to printing quality.

13.   An information processing method according to

Claim 9, further comprising a restriction-information

obtaining step of obtaining the restriction information of

printing settings,

wherein said display control step restricts a change of

printing settings which can be edited by the user interface,

according to the restriction information.

14. An information processing method according to Claim 9, further comprising a printing-data generation step of generating printing data to be transmitted to the printing apparatus, according to the data temporarily stored in the intermediate-code format.

15. An information processing method according to Claim 14, further comprising:

a description-instruction generation step of converting the data temporarily stored in the intermediate-code format into description instructions which the description means of the operating system can interpret and for outputting the instructions; and

a printing-instruction allocation step of passing a printing instruction received from the application program through the description means of the operating system, to said intermediate-data conversion step, and of passing a printing instruction received from said description-instruction generation step through the description means of the operating system, to said printing-data generation step.

16. An information processing method according to Claim 15, wherein the description instructions are graphic-driver-interface (GDI) functions, the printing instructions are device-driver-interface (DDI) functions, and the

printing data is written in a printer language.

17. A computer-executable program for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus, comprising:

an intermediate-data conversion program code of converting data to be printed, generated by an application program into data having an intermediate-code format to temporarily store it;

a setting-information obtaining program code of obtaining printing-setting information from the data temporarily stored in the intermediate-code format;

a display control program code of controlling such that a user interface for editing the printing-setting information of the data temporarily stored in the intermediate-code format is displayed; and

a setting edit program code of relating printing settings edited by the user interface to the data stored in the intermediate-code format and of temporarily storing them,

wherein said display control program code controls such that a change of printing settings which can be edited by the user interface is restricted and the printing settings are displayed.

18. A computer-executable program according to Claim

17, further comprising a job combining program code of combining a plurality of temporarily-stored printing jobs for the data to be printed, converted to the intermediate-code format, into one job,

wherein the user interface can edit printing settings for the combined job.

19. A computer-executable program according to Claim 18, wherein said display control program code controls such that a second user interface for editing layout settings, which are printing settings for which editing is restricted, for each combined job is displayed.

20. A computer-executable program according to Claim 17, wherein the printing settings for which editing is restricted by said display control program code includes printing settings related to printing quality.

21. A computer-executable program according to Claim 17, further comprising a restriction-information obtaining program code of obtaining the restriction information of printing settings,

wherein said display control program code restricts a change of printing settings which can be edited by the user interface, according to the restriction information.

22.   A computer-executable program according to Claim
17, further comprising a printing-data generation program
code of generating printing data to be transmitted to the
printing apparatus, according to the data temporarily stored
in the intermediate-code format.

23.   A computer-executable program according to Claim
22, further comprising:

a description-instruction generation program code of
converting the data temporarily stored in the intermediate-
code format into description instructions which the
description means of the operating system can interpret and
for outputting the instructions; and

a printing-instruction allocation program code of
passing a printing instruction received from the application
program through the description means of the operating
system, to said intermediate-data conversion program code,
and of passing a printing instruction received from said
description-instruction generation program code through the
description means of the operating system, to said printing-
data generation program code.

24.   A computer-executable program according to Claim
23, wherein the description instructions are graphic-driver-

interface (GDI) functions, the printing instructions are device-driver-interface (DDI) functions, and the printing data is written in a printer language.

25.   A storage medium for storing a computer-readable program of generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus, the program comprising:

an intermediate-data conversion program code of converting data to be printed, generated by an application program into data having an intermediate-code format to temporarily store it;

a setting-information obtaining program code of obtaining printing-setting information from the data temporarily stored in the intermediate-code format;

a display control program code of controlling such that a user interface for editing the printing-setting information of the data temporarily stored in the intermediate-code format is displayed; and

a setting edit program code of relating printing settings edited by the user interface to the data stored in the intermediate-code format and of temporarily storing them,

wherein said display control program code controls such that a change of printing settings which can be edited by the user interface is restricted and the printing settings are displayed.